DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Referring now to FIG. **4**, shown there is a touch screen device **40**, which may comprise or be included as a part of a business terminal, comprising a bezel **42** and a touch screen **44**, which is normally transparent to permit viewing of a display positioned beneath it. The bezel **42** includes an aperture **46** through which the touch screen **44** is accessible. Located beneath the touch screen **44** and not visible in FIG. **4** is a display **48** (FIG. **5**), which typically may be a liquid crystal display (LCD). The internal structure of the device **40** is shown in FIG. **5**, which is a partial sectional view taken along line **5**—**5** of FIG. **4**.

As shown in FIG. **5**, the touch screen **44** is held in position in the interior of the device **40** by being placed between two shield elements, namely a touch screen top shield **50** (FIG. **6**) and a touch screen holder shield **52** (FIG. **7**). The shields may be made of any suitable conductive relatively rigid metal, such as aluminum or steel, and will most commonly be fabricated in a stamping operation. The touch screen holder shield **52** has an indented portion **54** to receive and retain in position the touch screen **44**.

After the touch screen **44** has been inserted between them, the two shields **50** and **52** are held together by a plurality of studs, screws or other suitable fasteners **56**, which also secure the assembled shields and touch screen to the bezel **42**. The fasteners **56** extend through matching apertures **58** and **60** in the shields **50** and **52**, respectively.

As shown most clearly in FIGS. **6** and **7**, the two shields **50** and **52** are also provided with large central apertures **62** and **64**, respectively. The aperture **62** provides access by a user to the touch screen **44**, to enable it to be touched or otherwise written upon for the purpose of data entry. The aperture **64** in the shield **52** enables the display **48** to be seen from the exterior of the touch screen device **40** through the transparent touch screen **44**. The display **48** is retained in operative relation to the touch screen **44** by a plurality of screws or other fasteners **66** made of suitable non-conducting material which extend through apertures in the display **48** and through apertures **68** in the touch screen holder shield **52**. A rectangular insulating sheet **70** with a suitable rectangular aperture **72** is positioned between the shield **52** and the display **48** to provide the necessary electrical insulation between the shield and the display, and is provided with apertures through which the fasteners **66** extend.

The entire assembly of the shields **50** and **52**, together with the touch screen **44**, is driven with an electrical signal applied to the assembly. Insulated bushings and foam tape may also be used to keep the bracket or shield assembly from grounding the display **48**. It will be seen that the shielding bracket comprising the shields **50** and **52** provides a full 180 degree shielding surface to prevent the capacitance of a user's hand resting on the side of the bezel from interfering with the touch screen **44**, on the top, bottom or edge surfaces.

Although the invention has been described with particular reference to a preferred embodiment thereof, variations and modifications of the present invention can be effected within the spirit and scope of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A capacitive touch screen shield, comprising:

a first shield element of rigid conductive material, having an upper surface and a lower surface, also having a central opening through which a touch screen positioned beneath the shield element is accessible, and having a peripheral portion which extends past the outer edges of the touch screen; and

a second shield element of rigid conductive material which is located beneath the touch screen and supports the touch screen, the second shield element including an upturned portion which shields the edges of the touch screen, the second shield element having a flange portion extending outwardly of the upturned portion in a plane parallel to a plane through the first shield element for securing the second shield element to the lower surface of the first shield element.

2. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **1**, in which the first and second shield elements are generally rectangular in configuration.

3. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **1**, in which the second shield element has a central opening.

4. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **3**, in which said second shield element includes at least one mounting device for mounting a display.

5. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **1**, in which the first and second shield elements are aluminum.

6. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **1**, in which the first and second shield elements are steel.

7. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **1**, in which the first and second shield elements have the same external dimensions.

8. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **3**, in which the central openings of the first and second shield elements have the same dimensions.

9. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **1**, in which the second shield element is secured to the first shield element by a plurality of fasteners.

10. The capacitive touch screen shield of claim **9**, in which said fasteners comprise screws which engage apertures in the first and second shield elements.

11. A touch screen device, comprising:

a top shield of conductive material of generally rectangular configuration, having an upper surface and a lower surface, and also having a central opening through which a touch screen positioned beneath the top shield is accessible;

a touch screen holder shield of conductive material having an upper surface and a lower surface, also having an indented portion for receiving and retaining a touch screen and a flange portion extending outwardly of the indented portion and in a plane defined by said upper surface, and a central opening in the indented portion through which a display positioned below the indented portion is visible, the flange portion of the holder shield being secured to the top shield;

a transparent touch screen located in the indented portion of the holder shield;

a bezel surrounding the peripheries of the top shield and the holder shield; and

a display positioned beneath the holder shield and secured to the holder shield.

12. The touch screen device of claim **11**, in which the top shield and the touch screen holder shield have the same external rectangular dimensions.

13. The touch screen device of claim **11**, in which the central openings of the top shield and the touch screen holder shield have the same rectangular dimensions.

14. The touch screen device of claim **11**, also including an insulating member located between the touch screen holder shield and the display.

15. The touch screen device of claim **14**, also including a plurality of non-conducting fasteners for securing the display and the insulating member to the touch screen holder shield.